§ 243.9

§ 243.9 Will MMS continue to suspend my obligation to comply with an order if I seek judicial review in a Federal court?

(a) If you seek judicial review of an IBLA decision or other final action of the Department of the Interior regarding an order, MMS will suspend your obligation to comply with that order pending judicial review if you continue to meet the requirements of this part.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a) of this section, MMS may decide that it will not suspend your obligation to comply with an order. MMS will notify you in writing of that decision and the reasons for it.

§ 243.10 When will MMS collect against a bond or other surety instrument or a person demonstrating financial solvency?

(a) This section applies to you if, for an appeal of an order under this part, you:

(1) Maintain a bond or an MMS-specified surety instrument on your own behalf or for another person; or

(2) Have demonstrated financial solvency on your own behalf or for another person.

(b) MMS may initiate collection against the bond or other surety instrument or the person demonstrating financial solvency:

(1) If the MMS Director or the Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs decides your appeal adversely to you and you do not pay the amount due or appeal that decision to the IBLA under 43 CFR part 4, subpart E;

(2) If the IBLA, the Director of the Office of Hearings and Appeals, an Assistant Secretary, or the Secretary decides your appeal adversely to you, and you do not pay the amount due or pursue judicial review within 90 days of the decision;

(3) If a court of competent jurisdiction issues a final non-appealable decision adverse to you, and you do not pay the amount due within 30 days of the decision;

(4) If you do not increase the amount of your bond or other surety instrument as required under §243.101(b), or otherwise fail to maintain an adequate surety instrument in effect, and you do not pay the amount due under the

order within 30 days of notice from MMS under §243.101(b);

(5) If the obligation to comply with an order or decision is not suspended under §243.8 or §243.9 and you do not pay the amount required under the order or decision; or

(6) If the MMS bond-approving officer determines that you are no longer financially solvent under §243.202(c), and you do not pay the order amount or post a bond or other MMS-specified surety instrument under subpart B within 30 days of that determination.

§ 243.11 May I appeal the MMS bondapproving officer's determination of my surety amount or financial solvency?

Any decision on your surety amount under subpart B or your financial solvency under subpart C is final and is not subject to appeal.

§ 243.12 May I substitute a demonstration of financial solvency for a bond posted before the effective date of this rule?

If you appealed an order before June 14, 1999 and you submitted an MMS-specified surety instrument to suspend compliance with that order, you may replace the surety with a demonstration of financial solvency under this part at an administratively convenient time, such as when the surety instrument is due for renewal.

Subpart B—Bonding Requirements

§ 243.100 What standards must my MMS-specified surety instrument meet?

(a) An MMS-specified surety instrument must be in a form specified in MMS instructions. MMS will give you written information and standard forms for MMS-specified surety instrument requirements.

(b) MMS will use a bank-rating service to determine whether a financial institution has an acceptable rating to provide a surety instrument adequate to indemnify the lessor from loss or damage.

(1) Administrative appeal bonds must be issued by a qualified surety company which the Department of the Treasury has approved.